

# The Creeping Man

by Frances Shelley Wees

YESTERDAY Mrs. Murchison received a letter in her husband's handwriting, from Chicago, dated six weeks after his disappearance, saying that he is never going to return.

## Chapter 17 Somewhere In Between

MICHAEL spoke suddenly. "Let's forget all this conjecturing, and guessing. Let's get what we know organized—down on paper. Then we've got something to work on. I'm getting fed up with fiddling about."

"Motives?" queried his father. "Where are you going to start?" Bunny wanted to know. "Those motives? The diamond hunters, if any, the murderers, if any, or what have you?"

"The Professor," Michael said. "If any, of course." "It's like 'button button, who's got the button?'" Tuck murmured.

Michael threw her a cold glance. "Levity from here on is out," he said decisively. "Now we start. This thing probably isn't much of a mystery at all. There's no use keeping on with all this suspicion if we're barking up the wrong tree, if there isn't any tree. Supposing we start at the beginning, and think about Murchison himself. He's gone. This letter apparently clears up the question of his whereabouts, but we'll forget about that letter. Why did he go?"

The District Attorney tapped his pipe thoughtfully. He glanced up at his son, but said nothing. "First," Michael went on, "his wife says he probably went off to some remote laboratory to conduct some obscure experiment."

"What experiment?" Bunny demanded. "Why couldn't he conduct it here?" "That doesn't really bother me," said Michael; "the question is, what lab? As far as I'm concerned, that first possibility is out."

"There are labs in Chicago," Tuck said tentatively. Michael frowned. "I suppose I may as well own up," he said, "I do not believe in that letter for a moment. In the first place, it was worded too vaguely. He merely said, in two sentences, that he was returning to her, and perhaps she would understand. He didn't say where he was going or what he was going to do. He told her to forget him."

We don't seem to be dealing with a lady friend, which we can't substantiate as yet; and fear of punishment for some crime the disappearing person has committed.

"What crime?" "As yet, none. So there's no use talking about that, although we'll keep it in mind."

Bunny drew a deep breath and settled into her chair. "You're still talking about voluntary disappearance, Michael," she said quietly. "You've broken the ice. Now go on to what's more likely."

"Oh well," said Michael lightly. "If you must have it, I'll drop down into the big chair by the desk. 'Murder,' he said.

Tuck moved restlessly in her chair. Michael glanced at her and went on. "Robbery, jealousy, hate," he said. "Three possible motives. Everything comes under those three heads."

"Robbery, the diamonds," Bunny murmured. "Yes, and that will take in the largest circle of suspects. From Marie Murchison down to Higgins—and beyond. An unknown thief could have murdered him for the diamonds."

"Scarcely," the District Attorney said with a twinkle. "You can't go too far, Michael. You'd have a lot of little fine threads to pick up if you start talking so."

"Very well," Michael conceded. "No unknowns. Well, then, Higgins is the most likely suspect."

"Piffle," said Bunny. "Not alone, Michael. He hasn't the brains." "No. Well, to go on, Jealousy." "The lady's husband," murmured Tuck.

"Yes. But first we'll have to find the lady. So far there doesn't seem to be any." The District Attorney sat forward suddenly in his chair, and gazed intently into the fire. Bunny was watching him. She frowned to herself. Michael was watching her.

# On the RADIO CHAINS

Where to Find Them on the Dial. Kex, Portland, 1180; KFI, 640 Los Angeles; KGA, 1470, Spokane; KGO, 790, San Francisco; KGW, 620, Portland; KJR, 970, Seattle; KNX, 1050, Los Angeles; KOA, 830, Denver; KOIN, 940, Portland; KOMO, 926, Seattle; KPO, 630, San Francisco; KSL, 1180, Salt Lake.

STATIONS  
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Wednesday.  
5:00—Frank and Archie, KEX, KJR, Sunset Shadows, KGO; Waring's Orch., KPO, KGW, KFI.  
5:30—Kelsey's Orch., KPO, KGW; We Present, KGO, KJR.  
6:00—Sketch, KGO, KEX, KJR; Star Theater, KSL, KOIN, KNX; Drama, KOMO; Safety First, KPO.  
6:30—Horse and Buggy Days, KEX; Hollywood Playhouse, KPO, KFI; KGW, Convention, KGO; News, KJR.  
7:00—Sketch, KEX, KSL, KOIN; Kyrer's Prom, KGO, KGW, KFI; Shields' Orch., KGO, KJR, KEX.  
7:30—Burns and Allen, KNX; KOIN, KSL, Adventures, KGO, KJR.  
8:00—Waring's Orch., KPO; Breezing Along, KGO, KJR, KEX; Amos and Andy, KNX, KOIN, KSL.  
8:15—I Love a Mystery, KPO, KGW, KFI; Lum and Abner, KSL, KNX, KOIN.  
8:30—Whiteman's Orch., KNX, KSL, KOIN; Quicksilver, KGO, KJR, KEX; Avalon Time, KPO, KFI, KGW.

Thursday.  
5:00—Frank and Archie, KEX, KJR; Aurand's Orch., KOIN; Sunset Shadows, KGO.  
5:30—Kelsey's Orch., KGO, KEX, KJR; Army Band, KPO, KGW, KFI.  
6:00—Major Bowes, KNX, KOIN; KSL, Good News of 1940, KPO, KFI; KGW, Sketch, KGO, KEX, KJR.  
7:00—Columbia Workshop, KOIN; Music Hall, KPO, KFI.  
7:30—Pop-Ops, KNX, KOIN; Vicki Chase, KGO, News, KSL.  
8:00—Fred Waring, KPO, KGW, KFI; Cutler's Orch., KEX; Aloha Land, KGO; Amos and Andy, KNX, KSL, KOIN.  
8:15—Sam Hays, KNX; Cutler's Orch., KGO; I Love a Mystery, KPO, KGW, KFI.  
8:30—Symphony Hour, KPO, KGW, KFI; Ask-It-Basket, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Lyman's Orch., KGO.  
9:00—Strange As It Seems, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Sketch, KGO, KEX.  
9:30—Those We Love, KPO, KFI.

9:00—Pearce's Gang, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Radio Guild, KGO, Fred Allen, KPO, KGW, KFI.  
9:30—Noble's Orch., KGO, KEX; Gray's Orch., KNX, News, KJR.  
10:00—Martin's Orch., KGO, KJR, KEX; News, KNX, KSL, News Reporter, KPO, KFI, KGW; News, KOIN.  
10:30—Madriguera's Orch., KGO, KJR, KEX; Ravazza's Orch., KPO, KFI, KGW.  
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# WEBFEET PLAYERS HEAD FOR ALTAR

Eugene, Nov. 29.—(P)—One senior member of the University of Oregon football team has taken on a life-time position and a junior Webfoot will undertake a similar job next month.

Merle Peters of Portland, veteran right tackle of the Oregon eleven, was married to Marion Bjugstad, former co-ed from Eugene, at Vancouver, Wash., last Sunday, it was announced here today.

The engagement of Bettie L. Hobbs of Orange, Cal., to Clarence Arthur "Art" Winetrot, Jr., of Grants Pass, Ore., was announced here last night. Winetrot has a reserve left tackle on this year's team.

The Winetrot-Hobbs wedding will be held in the Tri-Delt house here on the campus, December 20.

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# STRANGE AS IT SEEMS—By JOHN HIX

For further proof address the author, inclosing a stamped envelope for reply. Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

THOMAS JEFFERSON—SPENT \$10,000 ON FINE WINES DURING THE 8 YEARS HE STAYED IN THE WHITE HOUSE!

MYSTERY OF THE BURIED CROSSES!  
MRS. VIOLET PARENT, wife of a Redlands, Calif., grocery clerk, discovered over 1500 CROSSES AND PLAQUES OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN, AND OVER \$10,000 IN CASH, SCATTERED OVER AN AREA 600 MILES LONG AND 300 MILES WIDE!

SHE CLAIMED "VOICES OF LONG-DEAD MISSION PADRES" GUIDED HER... (1915-25)

"WRONGWAY JALIL!"  
MAHOMED JALIL, Moslem pilgrim, FOLLOWED THE WRONG ROAD FOR 3 YEARS, PRAYING EVERY 5 STEPS OF THE WAY!  
HE TRAVELED OVER 850 MILES FROM JAMALPUR TO BOMBAY, INDIA, BELIEVING HE WAS HEADED FOR MECCA, ARABIA...

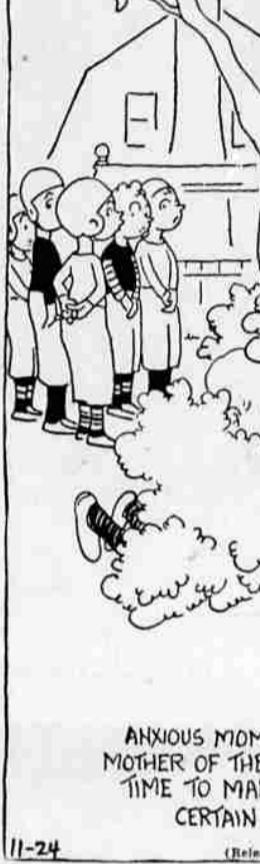
MAGIC SQUARE—EACH HORIZONTAL, VERTICAL OR DIAGONAL ROW TOTALS 19,998—EVEN WHEN VIEWED UPSIDE DOWN OR IN A MIRROR!

MYSTERIOUS CROSSES  
Claiming she was visited by voices and visions of long dead Indians and mission padres, Mrs. Violet Parent, wife of a California grocery clerk, in 1915 led friends to nearby hills where, upon digging, were found crude crosses six inches to one foot in length of unknown origin.

During the following ten years she led searchers to about 1,500 of these crosses and other relics. She also directed the discovery of more than \$10,000 hidden or lost in more than 100 places.

# THE NEIGHBORHOOD LEAGUE

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



ANXIOUS MOMENTS DURING THE PASSING BY OF THE MOTHER OF THE TEAM'S STAR PLAYER, WHO HAS HAD TIME TO MAKE HIMSELF INVISIBLE BUT NOT TO HIDE CERTAIN INCrimINATING EVIDENCE

# Philly Plans Wage Tax For Aid Fund

Philadelphia, Nov. 29.—(P)—A tax on wages of all persons earning their living in Philadelphia was among levies advanced today by acting Mayor George Connell as possible means of helping raise at least \$15,000,000 additional revenue he estimates is necessary for 1940. A similar proposal was rejected a year ago.

FDR's Favors Delay  
Warm Springs, Ga., Nov. 29. (P)—President Roosevelt was described on high authority today as having discussed with some of his recent visitors a delay of a month or a month and a half in the calling of the democratic and republican national conventions next year.

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# DOUBTS THAT FDR WILL RUN AGAIN

Spokane, Nov. 29.—(P)—Rep. Charles Leavy (D-Wash.) said today he did not believe President Roosevelt would seek a third term and that "it is quite probable Robert Jackson, solicitor general, will be the big man for the democratic presidential nomination next year."

The congressman added, however, "If President Roosevelt desires a third term, he can get the nomination and be elected." Leavy described Jackson as a "profound student of government, an unquestioned liberal, yet a man who inspires faith and confidence from all classes."

# Radio Time Lengthened

Washington, Nov. 29.—(P)—The Communications Commission today authorized radio stations KEX at Portland, Ore., and KOB at Albuquerque, N. M., to operate on an unlimited time basis. The two stations now operate simultaneously in the daytime and share time at night.

Scattered Wool Sales.  
Boston, Nov. 29.—(AP, USA)—Inquiries for domestic wools were being received today on the Boston market, but only scattered sales were being closed.

# TAILSPIN TOMMY—End of the Trail for Quentini



BEN WEBSTER'S CAREER—Wizard Cranel

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THE NEBBS—Full Speed Ahead

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# ONE POWER PILL DROPPED IN THE GAS TANK FILLED WITH WATER AND LOOK WHAT HAPPENS.



# ILL BET YOU NEVER RODE THIS FAST BEFORE—BETTER HOLD HER IN A BIT—I CAN SMELL RUBBER BURNING



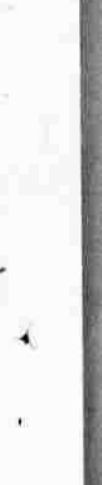
# THERE GOES MY FENDER'S! NEVER HAD A NICK IN 'EM



# MAYBE YOU'D BETTER TURN OFF THE SWITCH—I THINK WE'VE CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED THE POWER



# IT'S MARVELOUS! WAY BEYOND MY EXPECTATIONS! A WONDERFUL DEMONSTRATION! WHAT POWER!!



# YOU WIN, TOMKINS! BUT...IF YOU'D HAVE STAYED OUT OF THIS PICTURE, I'D HAVE WON... TEN MILLION... DOLLARS



# WHAT ARE YOU RAVING ABOUT?



# I...PLANNED THOSE CRASHES... MERELY TO DEMONSTRATE MY... INVENTION... FOR... AGENTS OF... A... FOREIGN POWER...



# A SMALL DROP... UPON AIRPLANE CONTROL... WIRES... AND...



# GO ON!... GO ON!... WHAT ELSE???



# METALASIC... DOES NOT BURN... THE FLESH... LEAVES NO TRACE... OF SABOTAGE...



# FULL PAGE ADS IN THE NEWSPAPERS, SPOT ANNOUNCEMENTS, HANDBILLS, PLACARDS, BANNERS, PHONE CALLS, SOUND TRUCKS AND AN AIRPLANE WITH A LOUDSPEAKER—I'LL TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING!

